

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20544

In the Matter of)	
)	
Developing a Unified Intercarrier)	CC Docket No. 01-92
Compensation Regime)	
)	
Missoula Intercarrier Compensation Plan)	[DA 06-1510]
)	
)	

**Motion of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
Maine Public Utilities Commission,
Montana Public Service Commission,
Nebraska Public Service Commission,
Vermont Department of Public Service,
Vermont Public Service Board,
Wyoming Public Service Commission,
("Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions")
For Extension of Time**

Pursuant to Rule 1.46 of the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC" or "Commission") Rules of Practice and Procedure, 47 C.F.R. § 1.46 (2006), the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, the Maine Public Utilities Commission, the Montana Public Service Commission, the Nebraska Public Service Commission, the Vermont Department of Public Service, the Vermont Public Service Board, and the Wyoming Public Service Commission ("Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions"), respectfully file this motion requesting an additional extension of the comment cycle for the Missoula Intercarrier Compensation Plan ("Missoula Plan") noticed in the August 9, 2006 Federal Register (71 Fed. Reg. 45510). Pursuant to an earlier request by NARUC, the FCC extended the initial and reply comment dates. Well over a hundred comments were

filed on or about the initial comment date of October 25, 2006. Currently, the comment cycle requires reply comments on or before January 11, 2007. The Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions respectfully request that the FCC extend the time for all reply comments by 21 days to February 1, 2007. In support of this request, the Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions state as follows:

I. Movant's Interest

Each of the Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions is charged with the duty of regulating the telecommunications common carriers within its state borders.¹ As such, each has the obligation to assure that such telecommunications services and facilities as may be required by the public convenience and necessity are universally provided at rates that are just and reasonable. As discussed below, the Missoula Plan affects this obligation because it would modify end-user rate structures and the fees assessed for basic service.

II. Background

The Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions have long held an interest in intercarrier compensation, including any proposal that could result in increases in local rates and/or increases in the federal subscriber line charge – which would generally be viewed by ratepayers as a local rate increase, despite its interstate character. Any adjustments to intercarrier compensation will also affect state universal service policies.

¹ The Vermont Department of Public Service represents the interest of Vermont Consumers.

III. Need for Relief

The Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions are actively engaged in modeling proposed modifications to the Missoula Base Plan that could allow them to support the plan. A data request has been sent to all state commissions seeking additional data regarding local rates and access traffic and revenues. Several states have indicated to us that they cannot comply with our initial request that this data be submitted by December 22, 2006. These states also report that additional time would allow them to produce a more thorough and accurate report. Moreover, additional time will allow the Early Adopter States more time to use the resulting data to evaluate the impact of certain modifications to the Plan, to distribute the resulting analysis to other states and carriers and to prepare fully informed reply comments. There is not sufficient time to complete these actions by the current January 11, 2007 deadline.

The Plan raises issues of concern to the Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions. The Early Adopters' view point is necessary to fully illuminate the issues raised by the Plan and ensure a complete record at the FCC. No other participants filing reply comments can adequately represent the viewpoint of the Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions. Hence, granting the requested extension will serve the public interest by ensuring that the Commission will have the benefit of a more accurate estimate of the effects of the Missoula Plan and the modifications to that plan that are now under consideration by plan proponents and Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions.

The Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions appreciate the FCC's earlier recognition that many stakeholders needed additional time to digest and prepare initial comments. The reasons supporting that request generally apply here as well.

The Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions represent that the Missoula Plan proponents' do not object to this request.

IV. Conclusion

Because of the importance of accurately estimating the effects of the original Missoula Plan and possible modifications that are currently being evaluated by Early Adopter states, the Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions respectfully request that the FCC extend the time to file reply comments until February 1, 2007.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Early Adopter Regulatory Commissions
December 20, 2006

/s
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